

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat, comprising:
a backing; and
a number of protruding artificial grass blades divided into rows and connected thereto, a mutual distance between successive blades in a row being substantially equal to the distance between adjacent rows and amounting to at least 10 mm.
2. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distance between the blades and the row spacing amount to at least 13 mm.
3. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 1, wherein the backing and the blades are formed and mutually connected by weaving.
4. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 1, wherein the backing is a fabric and the blades are connected thereto by tufting.
5. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 4, wherein the blades are formed from a continuous fibre.
6. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one support loop protruding less far from the backing is formed in each case between successive blades.

7. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 6,
wherein the support loops are formed outside the row of blades.
8. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 7,
wherein the support loops are formed from another fibre material than the
blades.
9. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 6,
wherein at least one of the blades and the support loops are formed from a relatively
thick or heavy fibre material.
10. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the blades are formed from monofilament fibre.
11. (Previously Presented) Artificial turf field, comprising an artificial turf
mat as claimed in claim 1 and a layer of loose filling material arranged thereon, the
thickness of which is less than the length of the artificial grass blades.
12. (Previously Presented) Method for forming an artificial turf mat,
comprising:
supplying a backing material,
supplying an artificial turf material,
forming a backing from the backing material, and
connecting blades of the artificial turf material divided into rows to the backing,
such that their mutual spacing in a row is substantially equal to the mutual distance
between adjacent rows and amounts to at least 10 mm.

13. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the blades are connected to the backing at a mutual distance and a row spacing of at least 13 mm.

14. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the backing is formed by weaving the backing material, and the artificial turf material is co-woven to form the blades.

15. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the backing material is formed into a fabric and the blades are connected to the fabric by tufting.

16. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the fabric is guided along a series of reciprocally moveable tufting needles placed adjacently of each other at the row distance, and the speed of forward movement of the fabric and the stroke speed of the tufting needles are adjusted to each other such that between successive strokes of the tufting needles the fabric is displaced substantially through the row distance.

17. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the fabric is stopped after each displacement through the row distance.

18. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the blades are formed from a continuous fibre.

19. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least one support loop is tufted into a fabric between successive blades, which support loop is pressed less far through the fabric than the adjacent blades.

20. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the support loops are formed outside the row of blades.

21. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the support loops are formed from another fibre material and connected to the fabric by another set of tufting needles than the blades.

22. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 19, wherein at least one of the blades and the support loops are formed from a relatively thick or heavy fibre material.

23. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the artificial turf material includes monofilament fibres.

24. (Previously Presented) Method for forming an artificial turf field by arranging on a ground an artificial turf mat as claimed in claim 1, and spreading thereover a layer of loose filling material to a thickness which is less than the length of the artificial grass blades.